

AMENDMENTS

In the specification:

Please insert the following paragraphs on page 1 prior to the heading "Field of the Invention":

--STATEMENT OF RIGHTS TO INVENTIONS MADE UNDER FEDERALLY SPONSORED RESEARCH

This invention was made with Government support under Grant No. DK44935, awarded by the National Institutes of Health. The Government has certain rights in this invention.

In the claims:

Please cancel claims 46-76, 96 and 132.

Please replace claims 77, 79, 83, 105, 113, 117, 121, 135 and 136 with the following amended claims:

--77. (Amended) A nucleic acid/lipid/polycationic polypeptide salt complex comprising a nucleic acid, at least one lipid species, and at least one polycationic polypeptide salt, wherein the complex further comprises a targeting factor directed to a cell surface molecule.

79. (Amended) The complex of claim 77, wherein the surface of the complex is positively charged.

83. (Amended) The complex of claim 81, wherein the surface of the complex is positively charged.

105. (Amended) The method of claim 104, wherein the cells are contacted with the complex *in vivo*, the method comprising administering the complex to an individual in an amount effective to deliver the nucleic acid into the cells of the individual.

113. (Amended) A method of delivering a nucleic acid to an individual, the method comprising administering to the individual a nucleic acid/lipid/polycationic polypeptide salt complex comprising a nucleic acid, at least one lipid species, and at least one polycationic polypeptide salt, wherein the complex is administered intratumorally, intravenously, intratracheally, intraperitoneally or intramuscularly.

117. (Amended) The method of claim 113, and wherein the surface of the complex is positively charged.

121. (Amended) The method of claim 119, wherein the surface of the complex is positively charged.

135. (Amended) The method of claim 113, comprising administering the complex to an individual in an amount effective to deliver the nucleic acid into cells of the individual.

136. (Amended). The method of claim 113, wherein the complex further comprises a targeting factor directed to a cell surface molecule.--

Please add new dependent claims 137-155.

--137. (New) The method of claim 98, wherein the complex is shielded.

138. (New) The method of claim 98, wherein the complex further comprises a compound comprising polyethylene glycol moieties.

139. (New) The method of claim 98, wherein the targeting factor is selected from the group consisting of modified lipids, proteins, polycations and receptor ligands.

140. (New) The method of claim 98, wherein the targeting factor is selected from the group consisting of asialoglycoprotein, insulin, low density lipoprotein (LDL), folate, monoclonal antibodies and polyclonal antibodies.

141. (New) The method of claim 98, wherein the targeting factor is directed to a cell type selected from the group consisting of liver, blood, endothelial and tumor cells.

142. (New) The method of claim 104, wherein the complex is shielded.
143. (New) The method of claim 104, wherein the complex further comprises a compound comprising polyethylene glycol moieties.
144. (New) The method of claim 104, wherein the targeting factor is selected from the group consisting of modified lipids, proteins, polycations and receptor ligands.
145. (New) The method of claim 104, wherein the targeting factor is selected from the group consisting of asialoglycoprotein, insulin, low density lipoprotein (LDL), folate, monoclonal antibodies and polyclonal antibodies.
146. (New) The method of claim 104, wherein the targeting factor is directed to a cell type selected from the group consisting of liver, blood, endothelial and tumor cells.
147. (New) The method of claim 131, wherein the complex further comprises a targeting factor directed to a cell surface molecule.
148. (New) The method of claim 147, wherein the targeting factor is selected from the group consisting of modified lipids, proteins, polycations and receptor ligands.
149. (New) The method of claim 147, wherein the targeting factor is selected from the group consisting of asialoglycoprotein, insulin, low density lipoprotein (LDL), folate, monoclonal antibodies and polyclonal antibodies.
150. (New) The method of claim 147, wherein the targeting factor is directed to a cell type selected from the group consisting of liver, blood, endothelial and tumor cells.
151. (New) The method of claim 136, wherein the targeting factor is selected from the group consisting of modified lipids, proteins, polycations and receptor ligands.
152. (New) The method of claim 136, wherein the targeting factor is selected from the group consisting of asialoglycoprotein, insulin, low density lipoprotein (LDL), folate, monoclonal antibodies and polyclonal antibodies.

153. (New) The method of claim 136, wherein the targeting factor is directed to a cell type selected from the group consisting of liver, blood, endothelial and tumor cells.

154. (New) The complex of claim 107, wherein the complex is shielded.

155. (New) The complex of claim 107, wherein the complex further comprises a compound comprising polyethylene glycol moieties.